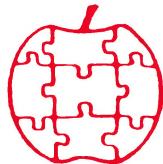


Apple

\$1.80



Assembly

Line

Volume 7 -- Issue 2

November, 1986

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Some Price Reductions...

The other day I noticed that I could buy ten 3M diskettes in a nice hard-plastic library case for less than \$11 at the local Safeway store. Wow! Times have changed! Our price keeps going down too, though. Now you can buy disks from us for 60 cents apiece. A shrink-wrapped pack of 25 is only \$15, including tyvek sleeves.

We told you a few months ago about the Minuteman UPS from Para Systems. I still love mine, and I think you would also enjoy one as much as I do. We are lowering our price this month from \$350 to \$320, plus shipping charges. The Minuteman handles up to 250 watts. I run my Sider, printer, monitor, and //e with a full deck of cards including 1Meg RAMWORKS; there is probably ample power left for a few more items. My power is now filtered, surge protected, brownout protected, and blackout protected.

Ultra-Fast Integer Square Roots.....Charles H. Putney
and Bob Sander-Cederlof

Well, Bob wanted a faster integer square root program, so here it is! This method uses table lookup with as little as two pages of tables. The fastest version uses 2.75 pages of tables (704 bytes), and averages only 37 microseconds per root when taking all 65536 possible. The version which uses only 512 bytes of tables is a little slower, but still a lot faster than the IBM PC program Bob mentioned a few months ago.

Here's how my method works. First the input argument is shifted left two bits at a time until it is in the range from \$4000 to \$FFFF. I keep track of how many double-bit shifts this takes, from 0 to 7 times. Then I use the high byte of this value, which will be a number from \$40 to \$FF, to find the root in a table of 192 roots. Then I shift the root right from 0 to 7 times, depending on the number of shift steps used before. The result is either the correct integer square root of the original number, or one less than the correct root. I can make the final correction by testing the original argument against a table of squares. I use the root taken from the first table as index into the second table. The value in the second table for root=N will be $(N+1) * (N+1)$. If the original argument is less than N-plus-1-squared, then N is the correct root; otherwise, N+1 is the correct root.

The program is shown below, with the tables. I used an AppleSoft program to actually generate the data for the tables, in a form which can be EXECed directly into the S-C Macro Assembler:

```
10  D$ = CHR$(4)
20  PRINT CHR$(4); "OPEN SQUARE ROOT TABLE"
30  PRINT CHR$(4); "WRITE SQUARE ROOT TABLE"
40  HS = "0123456789ABCDEF"
100 REM TABLE OF ROOTS
110 PRINT "5000 TABLE1"
120 FOR I = 0 TO 23
130 PRINT 5001+I "    >HS ";
140 FOR J = 64 TO 71
150 N = (I*8+J) * 256
160 R = INT (SQR(N))
170 GOSUB 1000
180 NEXT : PRINT : NEXT

200 REM TABLE OF SQUARES (LOW BYTES)
210 PRINT "6000 TABLE2"
220 FOR I = 0 TO 31
230 PRINT 6001+I "    >HS ";
240 FOR J = 1 TO 8
250 N = I*8+J : N2 = N*N
260 R = N2 - 256*INT(N2/256)
270 GOSUB 1000
280 NEXT : PRINT : NEXT

300 REM TABLE OF SQUARES (HIGH BYTES)
310 PRINT "7000 TABLE3"
320 FOR I = 0 TO 31
```

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```

330 PRINT 7001+I " >HS ";
340 FOR J = 1 TO 8
350 N = I*8+J : N2 = N*N
360 R = INT(N2/256) : IF R>255 THEN R=0
370 GOSUB 1000
380 NEXT : PRINT : NEXT

900 PRINT D$"CLOSE"
910 END

1000 REM PRINT IN HEX
1010 PRINT MID$(H$, INT(R / 16) + 1,1);
1020 PRINT MID$(H$, R - 16 * INT(R / 16) + 1,1)."";
1030 RETURN

```

The way I have written the SQRT subroutine, the high byte of the argument is expected in the X-register and the low byte in the A-register. The square root is returned in the Y-register, with A and X destroyed. This combination seemed to me to give the best speed. Lines 2290 and 2300 divide the arguments into two ranges: \$4000-FFFF, and below \$4000. The higher range comprises 75% of the possible arguments, a total of 49152.

The top 256 possible arguments, from \$FF00 to \$FFFF, must be handled as a special case. The logic which compares roots against values in TABLE2 and TABLE3 is confused by the fact that the entry for \$FF is \$0000. (It really is \$10000, but the leading 1 is not in either table.) Lines 2320-2330 strip out these arguments, and lines 2860-2870 return the correct root (\$FF). A total of only 11 cycles (not counting JSR SQRT or RTS) for these 256 arguments.

If the range is from \$4000 to \$FEFF, as it is in 48896 cases, lines 2340-2410 return the correct root. The high-byte of the argument is already in the X-register, so line 2340 loads the Y-register with the trial root from the table. No shifting must be done, so lines 2350-2390 proceed to compare with the square of the root+1 in TABLE2 and TABLE3. If the entry there is larger than the original argument, the root is correct; if not, line 2400 adds one, making it correct. The longest path from beginning to end for these arguments is only 28 cycles. If the test at line 2360 branches, it is only 19 cycles. Wow! And this takes care of three-fourths of all cases!

Arguments below \$4000 are handled by lines 2430 and following. Lines 2440-2450 test for arguments from \$0000 to \$00FF. These will be handled by lines 2740-2840. If the argument is exactly \$0000, the root is \$00, and this is detected at lines 2740-2750. All other roots below \$0100 need to be shifted at least 4 two-bit steps. By merely starting to work on the low-byte, and with a shift-count of 4, we accomplish the first four steps without taking any time at all. The loop in lines 2790-2840 normalizes the byte and continues to count shift steps. Then we joint the processing of values between \$0100 and \$3FFF.

The range of arguments from \$0100 to \$3FFF are handled beginning at line 2470. The loop in lines 2510-2570 normalizes the argument by shifting left in two-bit steps until the value

is \$4000 or more, counting the number of steps it takes. It will be 1, 2, or 3 steps.

We come to line 2590 with a shift count in the Y-register. The count will be 1, 2, or 3 the original argument was \$0100 or more; it will be from 4 to 7 if the original argument was below \$0100. We also come to line 2590 with the high-byte of the normalized argument in the A-register. Lines 2590-2600 used this byte to get a trial root from TABLE1. The loop in lines 2610-2630 shifts the trial root right the same number of bits as we took in two-bit steps to normalize the argument earlier. Finally, lines 2640-2720 check the trial root against the value in TABLE2 and TABLE3, and correct the root if necessary.

I had it all counted out at one time, and the arguments below \$4000 (with the exception of \$0000) take on the order of 80 cycles. It gets very involved to try to count these paths, so I wrote a timing program instead. Lines 2070-2260 call the SQRT subroutine for each argument from \$0000 to \$FFFF, and do it ten times. This takes about 41 seconds to execute. For fun, I inserted line 2170 to toggle the speaker after taking each square root; the sound is interesting, and also reveals the fact that lower roots take longer than higher roots. Lines 2130 and 2250 turn on and off the AN0 signal in the game port, for the timing setup I describe in another article in this newsletter. Line 2220 makes a visible mark on the screen so I will not get too impatient while the program is running.

I ran the timing loop as shown first, and as I said it took about 41 seconds. My timing setup using another Apple to count cycles gave a result of 41,821,940 cycles. Then I changed line 2280 from "SQRT" to "SQRT RTS", so I could time the overhead of the the timing program itself. My other Apple said this took 17,056,520 cycles. The difference is the time of SQRT itself, and this is 24,765,420. Remember that I took 65536 square roots ten times: therefore I divide by 655360 to get an average cycle count of only 37.8 cycles. In English, that is about 37 microseconds. Wow! Tell that to your IBM friend!

The program slows down if the tables are not properly placed in memory. Indexed instructions take an extra clock cycle if the indexing crosses a page boundary. Therefore, I adjusted the start of the tables so that they fit in a page. Notice that TABLE1 really starts 64 bytes into the page. This is so because the index we use to access TABLE1 runs from \$40 to \$FF.. The label ROOT is equated to TABLE1-64, at line 4010.

All this timing is irrelevant if the program produces incorrect results. Therefore an exhaustive test is necessary. I wrote a test program in Applesoft, but it was very slow. Therefore I converted it to assembly language, with the result in lines 1340-2050. The test program has some interesting wrinkles in it. It checks all the square roots from SQRT without actually having any code to multiply, divide, or take a square root.

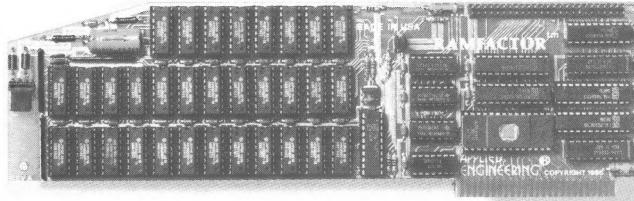
The test program runs through the possible arguments in sequential order, from \$0000 to \$FFFF. If the answer returned by SQRT is correct, it will pass the following tests:

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it will be the same as the previous root,
or it will be the previous root + 1.

if it is the same as the previous root,
the argument must still be less than
the "next perfect square"

if it is prev. root + 1,
the argument must be greater than or
equal to the "next perfect square"

I keep a running value for "next perfect square". I start with 1 (the next perfect square after 0*0 is 1*1). Then each time I find that the argument has reached the value of the "next perfect square", I bump it up by adding 2*root+1. Remember that $(n+1)^2 = n^2 + 2*n + 1$.

Lines 1550, 1780, and 1860 indicate visually that the program is running, and helped me find a bug or two. Lines 1930-2050 print out the important information when an error is detected.

Lines 1280-1320 allowed me to call SQRT from inside an Applesoft program. However, this is not foolproof because there may be page-zero conflicts as the program is now written. It worked fine for my tests, though.

```
1000 *SAVE S.PUTNEY-RBSC FISQR
1010 -----
1020 *      ULTRA FAST INTEGER SQUARE ROOTS
1030 *
1040 *      BY: CHARLES H. PUTNEY
1050 *          18 QUINNS ROAD
1060 *          SHANKILL, CO. DUBLIN, IRELAND
1070 *
1080 *      INPUT: X = ARG HIGH BYTE
1090 *          A = ARG LOW BYTE
1100 *
1110 *      OUTPUT: Y=INTEGER SQUARE ROOT OF X,A
1120 *          X AND A DESTROYED
1130 *
1140 -----
00-    1150 BAS.ARG    .EQ $00,01
02-    1160 NUMBER   .EQ $02,03
04-    1170 ARGSAV   .EQ $04,05
06-    1180 ARGLO    .EQ $06
07-    1190 TEN.TIMES .EQ $07
08-    1200 OLD.ROOT .EQ $08
09-    1210 NEW.ROOT .EQ $09
0A-    1220 RR        .EQ $0A,0B
0C-    1230 SS        .EQ $0C,0D,0E
1240 *
1250     .OR $6000 OUT OF THE WAY
1260     .TF SQUARE ROOT.OBJ
1270 *
6000- A5 00 1280 BASENT LDA BAS.ARG USE LOW = 0
6002- A6 01 1290 LDX BAS.ARG+1 HIGH = 1
6004- 20 C1 60 1300 JSR SQRT TEST IT
6007- 84 00 1310 STY BAS.ARG RETURN IN 0
6009- 60 1320 RTS
1330 *
1340 TEST
600A- A9 00 1350 LDA #0
600C- 85 02 1360 STA NUMBER
600E- 85 03 1370 STA NUMBER+1
6010- 85 08 1380 STA OLD.ROOT
6012- 85 0A 1390 STA RR
6014- 85 0B 1400 STA RR+1
6016- 85 0D 1410 STA SS+1
```

6018-	85	0E	1420	STA SS+2
601A-	A9	01	1430	LDA #1
601C-	85	0C	1440	STA SS
601E-	A5	02	1450 .1	LDA NUMBER SET UP FOR SQRT ENTRY
6020-	A6	03	1460	LDX NUMBER+1
6022-	20	C1	60 1470	JSR SQRT FIND THE SQUARE ROOT
6025-	84	09	1480	STY NEW.ROOT
6027-	C4	08	1490	CPY OLD.ROOT
6029-	FO	29	1500	BEQ .2 SAME AS OLD ROOT
602B-	E6	08	1510	INC OLD.ROOT
602D-	FO	4C	1520	BEQ .99 ERROR
602F-	C4	08	1530	CPY OLD.ROOT
6031-	DO	48	1540	BNE .99 ERROR
6033-	EE	F4	07 1550	INC \$7F4
6036-	A5	0C	1560	LDA SS SS = RR
6038-	85	0A	1570	STA RR
603A-	A5	0D	1580	LDA SS+1
603C-	85	0B	1590	STA RR+1
603E-	38		1600	SEC SS = SS + R + R + 1
603F-	26	09	1610	ROL NEW.ROOT
6041-	A9	00	1620	LDA #0
6043-	2A		1630	ROL
6044-	48		1640	PHA SAVE HIBYTE OF 2*R+1
6045-	A5	0C	1650	LDA SS
6047-	65	09	1660	ADC NEW.ROOT
6049-	85	0C	1670	STA SS
604B-	68		1680	PLA
604C-	65	0D	1690	ADC SS+1
604E-	85	0D	1700	STA SS+1
6050-	90	02	1710	BCC .2
6052-	B6	0E	1720	INC SS+2
6054-	A5	02	1730 .2	LDA NUMBER ERROR IF NUMBER < RR
6056-	C5	0A	1740	CMP RR
6058-	A5	03	1750	LDA NUMBER+1
605A-	E5	0B	1760	SBC RR+1
605C-	90	1D	1770	BCC .99
605E-	EE	F5	07 1780	INC \$7F5
6061-	A5	02	1790	LDA NUMBER ERROR IF NUMBER >= SS
6063-	C5	0C	1800	CMP SS
6065-	A5	03	1810	LDA NUMBER+1
6067-	B5	0D	1820	SBC SS+1
6069-	A9	00	1830	LDA #0
606B-	E5	0E	1840	SBC SS+2
606D-	BO	0C	1850	BCS .99
606F-	EE	F6	07 1860	INC \$7F6
6072-	E6	02	1870	INC NUMBER
6074-	DO	A8	1880	BNE .1 WRAPPED ?
6076-	E6	03	1890	INC NUMBER+1
6078-	DO	A4	1900	BNE .1 DONE 65536 ?
607A-	60		1910	RTS
607B-	A5	03	1920 *	
607D-	20	DA	FD 1930 .99	LDA NUMBER+1
6080-	A5	02	1940	JSR \$FDDA
6082-	20	DA	FD 1950	LDA NUMBER
6085-	20	DA	FD 1960	JSR \$FDDA
6087-	20	ED	FD 1970	LDA #"-"
608A-	A5	08	1980	JSR \$FDED
608C-	20	DA	FD 1990	LDA OLD.ROOT
608F-	A9	AD	2000	JSR \$FDDA
6091-	20	ED	FD 2010	LDA #"-"
6094-	A5	09	2020	JSR \$FDED
6096-	20	DA	FD 2030	LDA NEW.ROOT
6099-	60		2040	JSR \$FDDA
			2050	RTS
			2060 *	
609A-	A9	00	2070 TIMING	
609C-	85	02	2080	LDA #\$00 SET UP NUMBER FOR INCREMENTING
609E-	85	03	2090	STA NUMBER
60AO-	A9	0A	2100	STA NUMBER+1
60A2-	85	07	2110	LDA #10 DO IT ALL TEN TIMES
60A4-	AD	59	CO 2120	STA TEN.TIMES
60A7-	A5	02	2130	LDA \$C059 START TIMER
60A9-	A6	03	2140 .1	LDX NUMBER SET UP FOR SQRT ENTRY
60AB-	20	C1	60 2150	JSR SQRT FIND THE SQUARE ROOT
			2160 * LDA \$C030 REMOVE *** TO GET NEAT SOUNDS	

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60AE-	E6	02	2180	INC NUMBER	
60B0-	D0	F5	2190	BNE .1	WRAPPED ?
60B2-	E6	03	2200	INC NUMBER+1	
60B4-	D0	F1	2210	BNE .1	DONE 65536 ?
60B6-	EE	F7	07	2220	INC \$7F7
60B9-	C6	07	2230	DEC TEN.TIMES	
60B8-	D0	EA	2240	BNE .1	
60BD-	AD	58	CO	LDA \$C058	STOP TIMER
60C0-	60		2250	RTS	
			2260	#-----	
			2270	#-----	
			2280	SQRT	
60C1-	E0	40	2290	CPX #\$40	VALUE ALREADY NORMALIZED?
60C3-	90	14	2300	BCC .2	.NO
60C5-	E0	FF	2310	-----ARG = \$4000...FFFF-----	49152 CASES
60C7-	F0	51	2320	CPX #\$FF	CHECK FOR ARG-HI = \$FF
60C9-	BC	00	62	BEQ .9	.YES, SPECIAL CASE
60CC-	D9	00	63	LDY ROOT,X	GET ROOT, USE AS INDEX
60CF-	90	07	2340	CMP TABLE2,Y	
60D1-	8A		2350	BCC .1	...SPEEDS UP AVERAGE BY 0.8 CYCLE
60D2-	F9	00	64	TXA	ARG-HI
60D5-	90	01	2380	SBC TABLE3,Y	
60D7-	C8		2390	BCC .1	
60D8-	60		2400	INY	
			2410	RTS	
			2420	-----ARG = \$0000...3FFF-----	
60D9-	86	05	2430	.2	STX ARGSBV+1 SAVE ARG-HI
60DB-	E0	00	2440	CPX #0	IS ARG-HI ZERO?
60DD-	F0	2B	2450	BEQ .7	.YES
			2460	-----ARG = \$01FF...3FFF-----	16128 CASES
60DF-	85	04	2470	STA ARGSBV	SAVE ARG-LO FOR SHIFTING
60E1-	85	06	2480	STA ARGLO	SAVE ARG-LO FOR LATER COMPARE
60E3-	8A		2490	TXA	ARG-HI TO A-REG
60E4-	A0	00	2500	LDY #0	START SHIFT COUNT = 0
60E6-	06	06	2510	.3	ASL ARGLO
60E8-	2A		2520	ROL	
60E9-	06	06	2530	ASL ARGLO	
60EB-	2A		2540	ROL	
60EC-	C8		2550	INY	
60ED-	C9	40	2560	CMP #\$40	
60EF-	90	F5	2570	BCC .3	
			2580	-----A=NORM-ARG, Y=SHIFT-CNT-----	
60F1-	AA		2590	.4	TAX USE NORM-ARG FOR INDEX
60F2-	BD	00	62	LDA ROOT,X	GET ROOT FROM TABLE
60F5-	4A		2610	.5	LSR HALF ROOT SHIFT-CNT TIMES
60F6-	88		2620	DEY	
60F7-	D0	FC	2630	BNE .5	
60F9-	A8		2640	TAX	USE SHIFTED ROOT FOR INDEX NOW
60FA-	A5	04	2650	LDA ARGSBV	GET ARG-LO
60FC-	D9	00	63	CMP TABLE2,Y	
60FF-	90	08	2660	BCC .6	...SPEEDS UP AVERAGE BY 0.7 CYCLE
6101-	A5	05	2680	LDA ARGSBV+1	
6103-	F9	00	64	SBC TABLE3,Y	
6106-	90	01	2690	BCC .6	
6108-	C8		2710	INY	
6109-	60		2720	RTS	
			2730	-----ARG = \$0000...0OFF-----	
610A-	A8		2740	.7	TAX IS ARG-LO ALSO ZERO?
610B-	F0	CB	2750	BEQ .1	.YES, SQRT=0
			2760	-----ARG = \$0001. 0OFF-----	255 CASES
610D-	85	04	2770	STA ARGSBV	SAVE ARG-LO FOR LATER COMPARE
610F-	A0	04	2780	LDY #4	START SHIFT COUNT = 4
6111-	C9	40	2790	.8	CMP #\$40 NORMALIZED YET?
6113-	B0	DC	2800	BCS .4	.YES, GET ROOT NOW
6115-	0A		2810	ASL	
6116-	0A		2820	ASL	
6117-	C8		2830	INY	COUNT THE SHIFT
6118-	D0	F7	2840	BNE .8	.ALWAYS
			2850	-----ARG = \$FFXX-----	
611A-	A0	FF	2860	.9	LDY #\$FF
611C-	60		2870	RTS	
			2880	#-----	
5C-			2890	ZZ .EQ #-SQRT	
			2900	#-----	
			2910	* PUT TABLES SO NO PAGE CROSSING	
611D-			2920	.BS #+255/256*256-*+64	
			2930	#-----	

```

2940 *      DON'T WASTE PAPER
2950 .LIST MOFF
2960 .MA HS
2970 .HS J1
2980 .EM
2990 -----
3000 *      SQUARE ROOT TABLE OF N
3010 *      FROM $4000 (16384)
3020 *      TO $FF00 (65280)
3030 *      BY $100 (256)
3040 TABLE1 >HS 80.80.81.82.83.84.85.86.
3050 >HS 87.88.89.8A.8B.8C.8D.8E.
3060 >HS 8F.90.90.91.92.93.94.95.
3070 >HS 96.96.97.98.99.9A.9B.9B.
3080 >HS 9C.9D.9E.9F.A0.A0.A1.A2.
3090 >HS A3.A3.A4.A5.A6.A7.A7.A8.
3100 >HS A9.AA.AA.AC.AC.AD.AD.AE.
3110 >HS AF.B0.B0.B1.B2.B2.B3.B4.
3120 >HS B5.B5.B6.B7.B7.B8.B9.B9.
3130 >HS BA.BB.BB.BC.BD.BD.BE.BF.
3140 >HS C0.C0.C1.C1.C2.C3.C3.C4.
3150 >HS C5.C5.C6.C7.C7.C8.C9.C9.
3160 >HS CA.CB.CB.CC.CC.CD.CE.CE.
3170 >HS CF.D0.D0.D1.D1.D2.D3.D3.
3180 >HS D4.D4.D5.D6.D6.D7.D7.D8.
3190 >HS D9.D9.DA.DA.DB.DB.DC.DD.
3200 >HS DD.DE.DE.DF.E0.E0.E1.E1.
3210 >HS E2.E2.E3.E3.E4.E5.E5.E6.
3220 >HS E6.E7.E7.E8.E8.E9.EA.EA.
3230 >HS EB.EB.EC.EC.ED.ED.EE.EE.
3240 >HS EF.F0.F0.F1.F1.F2.F2.F3.
3250 >HS F3.F4.F4.F5.F5.F6.F6.F7.
3260 >HS F7.F8.F8.F9.F9.FA.FA.FB.
3270 >HS FB.FC.FC.FD.FD.FE.FE.FF.
3280 -----
3290 *
3300 *      SQUARE TABLE CONTAINING LOW
3310 *      BYTE OF (N+1)
3320 TABLE2 >HS 01.04.09.10.19.24.31.40.
3330 >HS 51.64.79.90.A9.C4.E1.00.
3340 >HS 21.44.69.90.B9.E4.11.40.
3350 >HS 71.A4.D9.10.49.84.C1.00.
3360 >HS 41.84.C9.10.59.A4.F1.40.
3370 >HS 91.E4.39.90.B9.44.A1.00.
3380 >HS 61.C4.29.90.F9.64.D1.40.
3390 >HS B1.24.99.10.89.04.81.00.
3400 >HS 81.04.89.10.99.24.B1.40.
3410 >HS D1.64.F9.90.29.C4.61.00.
3420 >HS A1.44.E9.90.39.E4.91.40.
3430 >HS F1.A4.59.10.C9.84.41.00.
3440 >HS C1.84.49.10.D9.A4.71.40.
3450 >HS 11.E4.B9.90.69.44.21.00.
3460 >HS E1.C4.A9.90.79.64.51.40.
3470 >HS 31.24.19.10.09.04.01.00.
3480 >HS 01.04.09.10.19.24.31.40.
3488 >HS 51.64.79.90.A9.C4.E1.00.
3490 >HS 21.44.69.90.B9.E4.11.40.
3500 >HS 71.A4.D9.10.49.84.C1.00.
3510 >HS 41.84.C9.10.59.A4.F1.40.
3520 >HS 61.C4.29.90.F9.64.D1.40.
3530 >HS 91.E4.39.90.E9.44.A1.00.
3540 >HS 61.C4.29.90.F9.64.D1.40.
3550 >HS B1.24.99.10.99.04.81.00.
3560 >HS 81.04.89.10.99.24.B1.40.
3570 >HS D1.64.F9.90.29.C4.61.00.
3580 >HS A1.44.E9.90.39.E4.91.40.
3590 >HS F1.A4.59.10.C9.84.41.00.
3600 >HS C1.84.49.10.D9.A4.71.40.
3610 >HS 11.E4.B9.90.69.44.21.00.
3620 >HS E1.C4.A9.90.79.64.51.40.
3630 >HS 31.24.19.10.09.04.01.00.
3640 -----
3650 *
3660 *      SQUARE TABLE CONTAINING HIGH
3670 *      BYTE OF (N+1)
3680 TABLE3 >HS 00.00.00.00.00.00.00.00.
3690 >HS 00.00.00.00.00.00.00.01.

```

6410-	3700	>HIS 01.01.01.01.01.01.02.02.
6418-	3710	>HIS 02.02.02.03.03.03.03.04.
6420-	3720	>HIS 04.04.04.05.05.05.05.06.
6428-	3730	>HIS 06.06.07.07.07.08.08.09.
6430-	3740	>HIS 09.09.0A.0A.0A.0B.0B.0C.
6438-	3750	>HIS 0C.0D.0D.0E.0E.0F.0F.10.
6440-	3760	>HIS 10.11.11.12.12.13.13.14.
6448-	3770	>HIS 14.15.15.16.17.17.18.19.
6450-	3780	>HIS 19.1A.1A.1B.1C.1C.1D.1E.
6458-	3790	>HIS 1E.1F.20.21.21.22.23.24.
6460-	3800	>HIS 24.25.26.27.27.28.29.2A.
6468-	3810	>HIS 2B.2B.2C.2D.2E.2F.30.31.
6470-	3820	>HIS 31.32.33.34.35.36.37.38.
6478-	3830	>HIS 39.3A.3B.3C.3D.3E.3F.40.
6480-	3840	>HIS 41.42.43.44.45.46.47.48.
6488-	3850	>HIS 49.4A.4B.4C.4D.4E.4F.51.
6490-	3860	>HIS 52.53.54.55.56.57.59.5A.
6498-	3870	>HIS 5B.5C.5D.5F.60.61.62.64.
64A0-	3880	>HIS 65.66.67.69.6A.6B.6C.6E.
64A8-	3890	>HIS 6F.70.72.73.74.76.77.79.
64B0-	3900	>HIS 7A.7B.7D.7E.81.82.84.
64B8-	3910	>HIS 85.87.88.8A.8B.8D.8E.90.
64C0-	3920	>HIS 91.93.94.96.97.99.9A.9C.
64C8-	3930	>HIS 9D.9F. A0. A2. A4. A5. A7. A9.
64D0-	3940	>HIS AA.AC.AD.AF.B1.B2.B4.B6.
64D8-	3950	>HIS B7.B9.BB.BD.BE.C0.C2.C4.
64E0-	3960	>HIS C5.C7.C9.CB.CC.CE.D0.D2.
64E8-	3970	>HIS D4.D5.D7.D9.DB.DD.DF.E1.
64F0-	3980	>HIS E2.E4.E6.E8.EA.EC.EE.F0.
64F8-	3990	>HIS F2.F4.F6.F8.FA.FC.FE.00.
4000		
6200-	4010 ROOT .EQ TABLE1-\$40 SET UP SO \$80 IS FIRST SQUARE ROOT	
6300-	4020 EXACTL .EQ TABLE2 SET UP SO 0 INDEX (OF \$4000)	
6400-	4030 EXACTH .EQ TABLE3 GIVES EXACT SQUARE OF 1	
4040		

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- On-board memory
- Fast conversion (.078 MS per channel)
- A/D process totally transparent to the Apple (just poke the data)
- User programmable input ranges are 0 to 10 volts, 0 to .5 - 5 to +5, -2.5 to +2.5, -5 to 0 to 10 to 0.

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D/A SPECIFICATIONS

- 0.3% accuracy
- On-board memory
- On-board output buffer amps can drive 5 MA
- D/A process is totally transparent to the Apple (just poke the data)
- Fast conversion (.003 MS per channel)
- User programmable output ranges are 0 to 5 volt and 0 to 10 volt

The D/A section contains 8 digital to analog converters, with output buffer amplifiers and all interface logic on a single card. On-card latches are provided for each of the eight D/A converters. No D/A converter could be easier to use. The on-board amplifiers are laser-trimmed during manufacture thereby eliminating any requirement for offset nulling.

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New ProDOS Bug and Fix

The November 1986 issue of Open-Apple (Tom Weishaar's wonderful newsletter) tells of an important new discovery. For about a year Tom has been reporting on the symptom: Appleworks and Applewriter data disks suddenly turning up with track 0 destroyed. It only happened to 5.25" diskettes, and only one certain machines, and otherwise seemingly at random. For a complete description, get all of Tom's back issues.

Some of his readers from Australia seem to have tracked down the problem, and they suggest a solution. In the floppy driver code inside ProDOS, at \$D6C3, there are four STA commands that turn off all four stepper motor windings. Tom says the purpose is to disable any 3.5" drives connected in a daisy chain to the same controller. I wonder, because this code has been here since 1983, long before the possibility of 3.5" drives. Anyway, the code has a bad side-effect in some systems.

A quirk of the controller card is that STA operations to the stepper motor winding soft-switches also cause the card to write on the data bus. So you have the bus being driven in two directions at once: the cpu trying to store the A-register, and the controller card trying to send something meaningless. Besides resulting in garbage on the data bus, which causes no real damage in this case, apparently in some Apples with some controller cards it causes the card to go into WRITE mode. Whatever track the head is sitting on will then be clobbered.

The solution is to change the four STA operations to LDA. The disk drives will get the same message, without causing the bus contention. You can patch the PRODOS system file and re-SAVE it, on all your disks. If you have a hard disk, you should only have to do it one time. If you BLOAD the PRODOS file at \$2000, the four instructions will be found at \$56D3:

```
56D3: 9D 80 C0 STA $C080,X  
56D6: 9D 82 C0 STA $C082,X  
56D9: 9D 84 C0 STA $C084,X  
56DC: 9D 86 C0 STA $C086,X
```

If you change all those "9D" bytes to "BD", which is the opcode for "LDA addr,X", the bug is supposed to disappear. Doing it from inside the S-C Macro Assembler, I did it this way:

```
:BLOAD PRODOS,TSYS,A$2000  
:UNLOCK PRODOS  
:$56D3:BD N 56D6:BD N 56D9:BD N 56DC:BD  
:BSAVE PRODOS,TSYS,A$2000,L14848  
:LOCK PRODOS
```

I personally have never had ProDOS clobber a diskette. I have trashed some myself, by stupidity, but this hardware/software bug has never caused it. Nevertheless, I have now patched my disks, just in case. Many thanks to Tom, Open-Apple, and to the men in Australia.



NEW ! ! !]| IN A MAC: \$69.00

This Apple II emulator runs DOS 3.3 and PRODOS programs (including 6502 machine language routines) on a 512K Macintosh. All Apple II features are supported such as HI-RES/LO-RES graphics, 40/80 column text screens, language card and joystick. Also included: clock, RAM disk, keyboard buffer, on-screen HELP, access to the desk accessories and support for 4 logical disk drives. Package includes 2 MAC diskettes (PROGRAM holds emulation, communications and utility software, DATA holds DOS 3.3 and PRODOS system masters, including Applesoft and Integer BASIC) and 1 Apple II diskette (transfer software moves disk images to the MAC).

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NEW ! ! ! MIDI-MAGIC for Apple //c: \$49.00

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* FONT LIBRARY DISKETTE #1: \$19.00 contains lots of user-contributed fonts for all printers supported by the Font Downloader & Editor. Specify printer with order.

DISASM 2.2e : \$30.00 (\$50.00 with SOURCE Code)

Use this intelligent disassembler to investigate the inner workings of Apple II machine language programs. DISASM converts machine code into meaningful, symbolic source compatible with S-C, LISA, ToolKit and other assemblers. Handles data tables, displaced object code & even provides label substitution. Address-based triple cross reference generator included. DISASM is an invaluable machine language learning aid to both novice & expert alike. Don Lancaster says DISASM is "absolutely essential" in his ASSEMBLY COOKBOOK.

The 'PERFORMER' CARD: \$39.00 (\$59.00 with SOURCE Code)

Converts a 'dumb' parallel printer I/F card into a 'smart' one. Command menu eliminates need to remember complicated ESC codes. Features include perforation skip, auto page numbering with date & title. Includes large HIRES graphics & text screen dumps. Specify printer: MX-80 with Graftrax-80, MX-100, MX-80/100 with Graftraxplus, NEC 8092A, C.Itoh 8510 (Prowriter), OkiData 82A/83A with Okigraph & OkiData 92/93.

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Communications ROM plugs directly into Novation's Apple-Cat Modem card. Basic modes: Dumb Terminal, Remote Console & Programmable Modem. Features include: selectable pulse or tone dialing, true dialtone detection, audible ring detect, ring-back, printer buffer, 80 col card & shift key mod support.

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Plugs into any Apple slot. Holds one user-supplied 2Kx8 memory chip (6116 type RAM for program development or 2716 EPROM to keep your favorite routines on-line). Maps into \$Cn00-\$nFF and \$C800-\$FFF.

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Connect standard parallel printers to an Apple //c. C-PRINT plugs into the standard Apple //c printer serial port and into any printer having a standard 36 pin centronics-type parallel connector. Just plug in and print!

Unless otherwise specified, all Apple II diskettes are standard (not copy protected!) 3.3 DOS.

Avoid a \$3.00 handling charge by enclosing full payment with order. VISA/MC and COD phone orders OK.

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Timing Apple Programs with Another Apple.....

...Bob Sander-Cederlof

While I was working on Charles Putney's integer square root program, I longed for a better way to time it. I was wasting a lot of my time using a stopwatch, and still getting inaccurate (or at least imprecise) times.

For around \$3000 I could buy a logic analyzer and hook it up to count machine cycles. That is obviously out of the question. Maybe I could hunt around among my old boards and find one with a 6522 on it: that chip has an interval timer that could give me fairly accurate times. I might be able to find one, but then I would have to figure out how to program it again.

Then I thought about using the game port to communicate with another Apple, and put a timing loop in the other Apple. I hooked one of the Announcer output lines in my first Apple to a Push Button input line on the second one. Then I set up the program being clocked to set the annunciator on at the beginning and turn it off at the end. I wrote a timing program to run in the other Apple which waited until the push button input went on, and then counted loops until it went low again. The results were better than I hoped for!

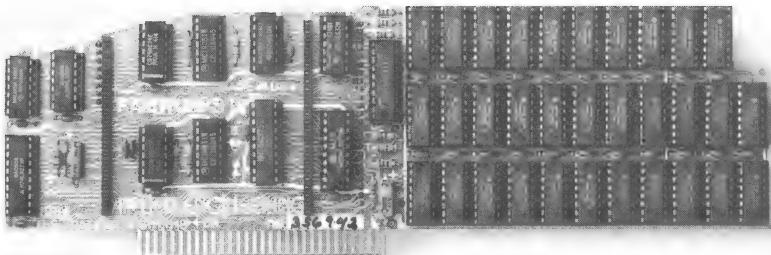
To hook up the Apples, I started by finding some wire. I needed about 12 feet of at least two wires. I found about six feet of four-line telephone wire, and another six feet of twisted pair left over from my burglar alarm installation. I connect them together, very crudely, and stretched them across the room. The Apple on the south side of the room is my nine-year-old. It has a nice ZIF-socket in the game port, so I inserted the ground wire into pin 8 and the signal wire into pin 2, and clamped the socket. If you do not have a ZIF socket in yours, the telephone wire fits very nicely into the holes in a regular socket.

The Apple //e on the north side of the room challenged me a little more. First, the game socket is unreachable, way under the top right lip of the upper case. I can't even see it without a flashlight! There is a nine-pin D-connector on the back panel, but the Announcer lines do not come to this connector. A little research led to the knowledge that the Announcer signals come directly from pins 10-13 of the IOU chip. I chose AN0, which is pin 10. I hooked a red miniclip lead to that pin, and a black miniclip lead to ground at pin 1 of the same chip. The IOU chip is the 40-pin chip at position E5 on my //e motherboard, conveniently labeled "IOU". Facing the computer from the front, pin one is the first one on the right-hand side of the chip. Pin 10 is on the same side, about half way back. I then connected the other end of those leads to my wires, and the circuit was complete.

The program in the //e is the program whose time I want to measure. At the beginning of the section to be timed, I insert the instruction "LDA \$C059" to turn on AN0. At the end, I insert the instruction "LDA \$C058" to turn off AN0.

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Applied Engineering doesn't make you buy it, but if you want RGB output you're in for a nice surprise because the RamWorks RGB option offers better color graphics plus a more readable 80 column text (that blows away any composite color monitor). For only \$129 it can be added to RamWorks giving you a razor sharp, vivid brilliance that most claim is the best they have ever seen. You'll also appreciate the multiple text colors (others only have green) that come standard. But the RamWorks RGB option is more than just the ultimate in color output because unlike others, it's fully compatible with all the Apple standards for RGB output control, making it more compatible with off-the-shelf software. With its FCC certified design, you can use almost any RGB monitor because only the new RamWorks RGB option provides both Apple standard and IBM standard RGB outputs (cables included). The RGB option plugs into the back of RamWorks with no slot 1 inter-

Endorsed by the Experts.

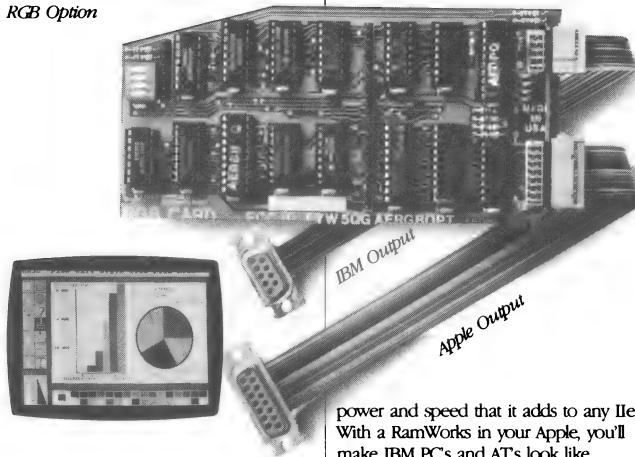
A+ magazine said "Applied Engineering's RamWorks is a boon to those who must use large files with AppleWorks...I like the product so much that I am buying one for my own system." inCider magazine said "RamWorks is the most



Steve Jobs, the creator of Apple Computer

"I wanted a memory card for my Apple that was fast, easy to use, and very compatible; so I bought RamWorks."

RGB Option



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coverage no matter where you purchase

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- Expandable to 16 meg with expander cards, with NO slot 1 interference
- Can use 64K or 256K RAMs
- Powerful linear addressing 16 bit coprocessor port
- Automatic AppleWorks expansion up to 3017K desktop
- Accelerates AppleWorks
- Built-in AppleWorks printer buffer
- The only large RAM card that's 100% compatible with all IIe software
- RamDrive™ the ultimate disk emulation software included free
- Memory is easily partitioned allowing many programs in memory at once
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- Built-in self diagnostics software
- Lowest power consumption (U.S. Patent #4601081)
- Takes only one slot (auxiliary) even when fully expanded
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- Advanced Computer Aided Design
- Used by Apple Computer, Steve Jobs and virtually all software companies
- Displays date and time on the AppleWorks screen with any PRO-DOS compatible clock
- Much, much more!

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The timing program in the other Apple is shown below. Lines 1130-1180 set up a page zero location to contain \$01, which I need later to make all the timing correct. They also clear the three registers, which I am going to use for accumulating a 24-bit count. Lines 1190-1200 then wait until the input signal goes high. This will happen when the program in the //e does the "LDA \$C059" instruction.

Lines 1260-1400 increment the 24-bit count once each 20 cycles, until the PBO signal falls. The signal is tested only once each 20 cycles, so there is a built in resolution of 20 cycles. If I want to measure a program down to the exact cycle, I will have to run it at least 20 times. Actually, there are two other sources of "error": the signal on my 12 feet of wire will not necessarily rise and fall at exactly the same speed; and the two Apples may not be running at exactly the same speed.

The various paths in lines 1260-1400 are all carefully timed so they all take exactly 20 cycles. The interval between BIT PBO executions should always be 20 cycles. Of course, that is, unless I made a mistake. There is one exception: When the A-register wraps around, after 16,777,216 counts, lines 1340-1350 add 5 cycles. The total interval on this path is 24 cycles. But this only happens once every 6 or 7 minutes, so who cares!

Finally, lines 1420-1490 print out the resulting count in hexadecimal. I then take my handy Radio Shack calculator out, convert to decimal, multiply by 20, and have the cycle count.

I like this arrangement so well, and I need to time programs so frequently, that I plan to make a more permanent hookup. And that reminds me of an old idea... a way to network several Apples using just the gameport....

```
1000 *SAVE S.TIMER
1010 *
1020 *      START COUNT WHEN PBO (OPEN-APPLE)
1030 *      PRESSED, STOP WHEN RELEASED
1040 *
00-
01-    1050 CNT0 .EQ 0
02-    1060 CNT1 .EQ 1
03-    1070 CNT2 .EQ 2
      1080 ONE .EQ 3
      1090 *
C061-  1100 PBO .EQ $C061 BIT 7 = 1 WHEN PRESSED
      1110 *
      1120 T
0800- A0 01  1130 LDY #1
0802- 84 03  1140 STY ONE
0804- 88     1150 DEY      Y=0
0805- 98     1160 TYA      A=0
0806- AA     1170 TAX      X=0
0807- 18     1180 CLC
0808- 2C 61 C0 1190 .1 BIT PBO
080B- 10 FB  1200 BPL .1
      1210 *
      1220 *      20 CYCLES PER LOOP, REGARDLESS OF PATH
      1230 *      24-BIT COUNTER GIVES 16,777,216 COUNTS
      1240 *      WHICH IS 335,544,320 CYCLES
      1250 *
080D- 2C 61 C0 1260 .2 BIT PBO
0810- 10 12  1270 BPL .5 END OF COUNTING
0812- E8     1280 INX
0813- D0 0A  1290 BNE .3
0815- C8     1300 INY
```

0816- DO 09	1310	BNE .4
0818- 65 03	1320	ADC ONE
081A- DO F1	1330	BNE .2
081C- 18	1340	CLC
081D- 90 EE	1350	BCC .2
	1360	*
081F- EA	1370	.3 NOP
0820- EA	1380	NOP
0821- EA	1390	.4 NOP
0822- DO E9	1400	BNE .2
	1410	*
0824- 85 02	1420	.5 STA CNT2
0826- 84 01	1430	STY CNT1
0828- 86 00	1440	STX CNT0
082A- 20 DA FD	1450	JSR \$FDDA
082D- A5 01	1460	LDA CNT1
082F- 20 DA FD	1470	JSR \$FDDA
0832- A5 00	1480	LDA CNT0
0834- 4C DA FD	1490	JMP \$FDDA
	1500	*

The //gs Reference Manuals

When Apple sent me the prototype //gs they included 11 fat 3-ring binders full of documentation. Much of it is destined to eventually be published as reference manuals by Addison-Wesley. I can hardly wait, because in the present form it is incomplete, inconvenient, inconsistent, inaccurate, and takes up too much space. I am sure the finished product will be up to Apple's usual standard, eliminating all the negatives just mentioned.

Addison-Wesley has released a little folder which describes the new manuals, with projected publishing dates. We will carry some of these, as soon as they are available.

The first book out will be "Technical Introduction to the Apple //gs". It is due in December, but there is not much REAL information in it. It is more like a complete marketing description, without the kind of detailed information programmers need. It is only 120 pages.

Three books are due in "Spring, 1987". I suppose that means we can expect copies by June 21st, at least. These look like books worth ordering:

- "Programmer's Introduction to the Apple //gs",
150 pgs, \$19.95
- "Apple //gs Hardware Reference", 250 pgs, \$26.95
- "Apple //gs Firmware Reference", 250 pgs, \$24.95

Three more are due in "Summer, 1987", which means no later than September 21st:

- "Apple //gs Toolbox Reference"
Volume 1, 400 pgs, \$29.95
Volume 2, 400 pgs, \$29.95
- "Apple //gs ProDOS 16 Reference"
Disk included, 200 pgs, \$39.95

I expect Gary Little's new book, "Inside the Apple //gs", to be coming out by next March or April. No doubt there will be many more books coming out. Apple has a way of triggering whole new industries....

PAUSE Directive for S-C Macro Assembler 2.0.....Bill Morgan

Many times we want to call "time out" during an assembly, for various reasons. Maybe a program has outgrown the available disk space and we need to swap source disks, or maybe we need to check the value of a label during assembly. We can't manually pause an assembly at a specific place during pass one, and it's difficult to do during pass two if the listing is on, since you have to sit and stare at the screen to tell where the assembly is. What we need is a PAUSE directive to tell the assembler to stop and wait for a keypress before continuing.

Back in May of 1983 Mike Laumer wrote up such a directive for the S-C Macro Assembler. The Assembler provides a .US directive for just such cases and Mike supplied the routines to use a line like .US SWAP SOURCE DISK to pause the assembly and display "SWAP SOURCE DISK" on the screen in inverse text. The Macro Assembler, Apple computers, and people's expectations have all changed in the last 3 1/2 years, so it seems like time to update and expand that article.

The .US vector normally contains JMP CMNT, a jump to the assembler's comment routine to just list a line. We can patch in the address of our handler and then have our code exit to CMNT when we're through. When control transfers to the .US vector the source line is in the system input buffer at \$200 and location \$7B contains an index into the buffer, pointing at the first character following the ".US" (normally a space). Another assembler variable that can come in handy for a .US feature is PASS, at \$60. This location contains a 0 during pass one of assembly and a 1 during pass two.

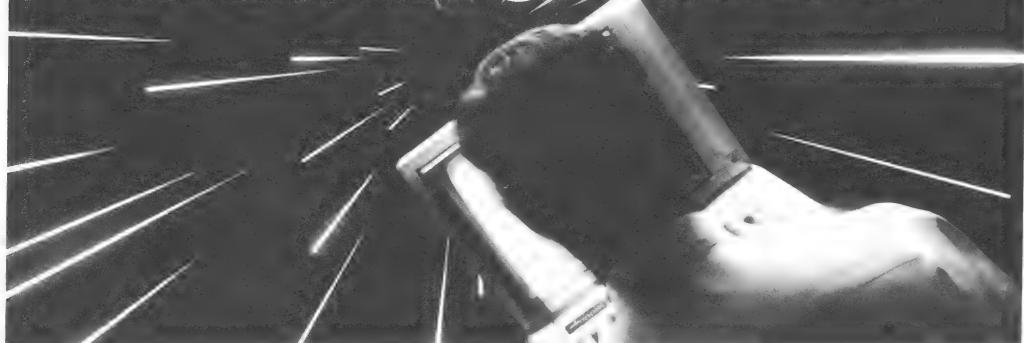
It only takes a few changes to adapt Mike's code to the Version 2.0 Macro Assemblers. The .US vector is now at \$D015 (\$8015 for ProDOS), so we have to change that .EQuate line. CMNT has shifted around between various releases of Version 2.0, so I redid the code in INSTALL to transfer the correct address for CMNT out of the vector before installing PAUSE.

We only need to make two more changes to create a ProDOS version: alter the .US vector definition as shown in lines 1230-1240; and delete lines 1180-1190, 1290-1300, and 1400, since we don't need to worry about enabling/disable the "Language Card" memory under the ProDOS assembler.

Most of the changes have to do with accomodating the //e 80-column display, with its division between main and auxiliary memory. I kept the technique of using the Y-register to index through the source line, and the X-register to index through screen memory. Toggling the Carry bit keeps track of which bank we need to store into, and incrementing Y after each store and incrementing and testing X after every other store takes care of the different indexes we need.

I thought we were just about done when I realized that this program wouldn't properly handle lower case text in the message string. To use inverse lower case we have to take the AltChar soft switch into account and adjust the ASCII values. I added

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that code in at the last minute, and left it with odd line numbers and lower case opcodes, so you can see exactly how much extra effort it takes to deal with inverse lower case. If you're always going to use upper case text in your Pause messages you can save 24 bytes by leaving out those lines.

This program is specifically for the Apple //e 80-column display. For 40-column display you can just change the addresses in Mike's original article. For other 80-column displays you will probably have to give up some transparency, since you are unlikely to be able to display something on the screen without going through the usual I/O hooks. Maybe you can store directly into the card's memory, if the manufacturer documents how to do it.

```

1000 *SAVE S.NEW.PAUSE
1010 *
1020 * .US DIRECTIVE TO PAUSE DURING ASSEMBLY
1030 *
1040 *      SYNTAX: .US <phrase>
1050 *      RESULT: Displays <phrase> in inverse text
1060 *          and waits for a keypress
1070 *
1080 *
7B-    1090 CHAR.PTR .EQ $7B
1100
0200- 1110 WBUF     .EQ $200
07D0- 1120 CORNER   .EQ $7D0
1130
C000- 1140 KEYBOARD .EQ $C000
C00E- 1141 alt.off   .eq $c00e
C00F- 1142 alt.on    .eq $c00f
C010- 1150 STROBE    .EQ $C010
C01E- 1151 alt.read  .eq $c01e
C054- 1160 PAGE1    .EQ $C054
C055- 1170 PAGE2    .EQ $C055
C080- 1180 PROTECT   .EQ $C080
C083- 1190 ENABLE    .EQ $C083
1200
FBE2- 1210 BELL     .EQ $FBE2
1220 *
D015- 1230 USR.VECT .EQ $D015      DOS 3.3
1240 *           $8015      ProDOS
1250 *
1260 .OR $300
1270
1280 INSTALL
0300- AD 83 C0 1290 LDA ENABLE      write enable
0303- AD 83 C0 1300 LDA ENABLE      RAM card
0306- A2 01 1310 LDX #1          start with hi-bytes
0308- BD 16 D0 1320 .1 LDA USR.VECT+1,X get SC.CMNT address
030B- 48        1330 PHA          stash it
030C- BD 65 03 1340 LDA EXIT+1,X  get PAUSE address
030F- 9D 16 D0 1350 STA USR.VECT+1,X set .US vector
0312- 68        1360 PLA          recover stash
0313- 9D 65 03 1370 STA EXIT+1,X set exit address
0316- CA        1380 DEX          now do lo-bytes
0317- 10 EF 1390 BPL .1
0319- AD 80 C0 1400 LDA PROTECT   protect card
031C- 60        1410 RTS
1420 *
031D- A2 00 1430 PAUSE    LDX #0      start at beginning of screen line
031F- 18        1440 CLC       clear toggle
0320- AD 1E C0 1441 lda alt.read  get altchar status
0323- 08        1442 php       stash it
0324- 8D 0F C0 1443 sta alt.on   altchars on
0327- A4 7B 1450 LDY CHAR.PTR index into source line

```

0329-	B9	00	02	1460	.1	LDA	WBUF,Y	get char from call line
032C-	FO	22		1470		BEQ	.3	.EQ. is end of line
032E-	08			1471		php		preserve carry
032F-	C9	60		1472		cmp	#`'	test for lower case
0331-	29	3F		1480		AND	#\$00111111	invert char
0333-	90	02		1481		bcc	.15	.CC. if upper case
0335-	09	40		1482		ora	#\$01000000	correct inverse lower case
0337-	28			1483	.15	plp		restore carry
0338-	BO	0A		1490		BCS	.2	branch if odd screen position
				1500				
033A-	8D	55	CO	1510		STA	PAGE2	even, so use aux memory
033D-	9D	D0	07	1520		STA	CORNER,X	show character
0340-	C8			1530		INY		next message character
0341-	38			1540		SEC		set toggle
0342-	BO	E5		1550		BCS	.1	always
				1560				
0344-	8D	54	CO	1570	.2	STA	PAGE1	odd, so use main memory
0347-	9D	D0	07	1580		STA	CORNER,X	show character
034A-	C8			1590		INY		next message character
034B-	E8			1600		INX		next screen position
034C-	EO	28		1610		CPX	#40	line full?
034E-	90	D9		1620		BCC	.1	no, get another char, clear toggle
				1630				
0350-	20	E2	FB	1640	.3	JSR	BELL	beep
0353-	AD	00	CO	1650	.4	LDA	KEYBOARD	wait for keypress
0356-	10	FB		1660		BPL	.4	
0358-	8D	10	CO	1670		STA	STROBE	assume altchars off
035B-	8D	0E	CO	1671		sta	alt.off	get altchar status
035E-	28			1672		plp		.PL. if altchar was off
035F-	10	03		1673		bpl	exit	set altchars on
0361-	8D	0F	CO	1674		sta	alt.on	address modified by INSTALL
0364-	4C	1D	03	1680	EXIT	JMP	PAUSE	
				1690	*			

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There are 256 bytes of RAM inside the clock chip in the Apple //gs. These bytes are backed up by the same battery that keeps the clock ticking when you turn off your Apple. You can read and write the battery RAM locations, but not the same as regular RAM. You can either do it the hard way, by direct hardware, or you can do it through the built-in firmware.

First, the easy way. When you turn on your //gs, the power-up routines install a lot of stuff in RAM in banks \$E0 and \$E1. At the beginning of \$E1 there are a lot of JMP opcodes, with long (24-bit) addresses. The one at \$E10000 is a jump to the Tool Locater. The Tool Locater is simply a way to access a lot of firmware subroutines without knowing their actual addresses. Instead of calling a firmware subroutine directly, you load up a subroutine number in a register and call the single known address, \$E10000.

To keep things organized, the //gs firmware designers require you to call \$E10000 with the 65816 in Native mode, with a JSL \$E10000. Any parameters the subroutines need must be pushed onto the stack before the JSL, and any results will be on the stack when the subroutine is finished. The carry status will indicate whether the subroutine returned an error code or not, just as in ProDOS MLI. If carry is clear, there was no error; if carry is set, there was an error and the error code is in the A-register. Regardless of the setting of the m- and x-status bits when you call \$E10000, it will return with both of them zero (full 16-bit mode).

You tell the Tool Locater which "tool" to call by a code number in the X-register. This is a 16-bit value, so you must have 16-bit mode on for the X-register when you call \$E10000 (x-status bit=0). It doesn't matter whether m-status is 0 or 1. The tool code is made up of a tool set number (00-FF, in the low byte) and a tool number (00-FF, in the high byte). The tool code to read all 256 bytes of battery RAM is \$0A03; to write 256 bytes out to battery RAM, the tool code is \$0903.

The following program will read battery RAM:

	1020	.OP 65816
	1030 *	-----
000800- 18	1040 R	CLC
000801- FB	1050	XCE
000802- C2 30	1060	REP #\$30
	1070 *	-----
000804- F4 00 00	1080	PEA BUF/256/256
000807- F4 00 09	1090	PEA BUF
00080A- A2 03 0A	1100	LDX ##\$0A03 READ BATTERY RAM
00080D- 22 00 00 E1	1110	JSL \$E10000
	1120 *	-----
000811- 38	1130	SEC
000812- FB	1140	XCE
000813- 60	1150	RTS
	1160 *	-----
000814- 18	1170 W	CLC
000815- FB	1180	XCE
000816- C2 30	1190	REP #\$30
	1200 *	-----
000818- F4 00 00	1210	PEA BUF/256/256
00081B- F4 00 09	1220	PEA BUF
00081E- A2 03 09	1230	LDX ##\$0903 WRITE BATTERY RAM
000821- 22 00 00 E1	1240	JSL \$E10000
	1250 *	-----

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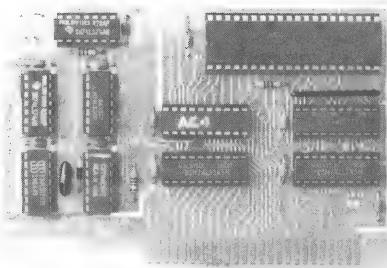
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000825- 38	1260	SEC
000826- FB	1270	XCE
000827- 60	1280	RTS
	1290	*
0900-	1300	BUF .EQ \$900
	1310	*

When I did this on my //gs prototype, this is what I got:

```

0900-00 00 00 01 00 00 OD 06 02 01 01 00 01 00 00 00-.....
0910-00 00 07 06 02 01 01 00 00 00 00 OF 07 00 08 0B-.....
0920-01 01 00 00 00 00 01 01 05 00 00 00 03 02 02 02-.....
0930-00 00 00 00 00 00 00 0C 08 00 01 02 03 04 05 06-.....
0940-07 0A 00 01 02 03 04 05 06 07 08 09 0A 0B 0C 0D-.....
0950-0E 0F FF FF-.....
0960-FF FF FF-.....
0970-FF FF FF-.....
0980-FF FF FF-.....
0990-FF FF FF-.....
09A0-FF FF FF-.....
09B0-FF FF FF-.....
09C0-C2 C2 A0 D3 C1 CE C4 C5 D2 AD C3 C5 C4 C5 D2-BOB SANDER-CEDER
09D0-CC CF C6 A0 FF FF-.....
09E0-FF FF FF-.....
09F0-FF FF FF-.....
                                         :N.d

```

Those last four bytes are some kind of a check sum, handled automatically by the tool. I suppose that if the checksum is incorrect on power up, you will be popped into the configurator instead of going into a boot. You can read these bytes, but you cannot write them with the tool: the tool will calculate a checksum and write it when you write the other 252 bytes. Bytes \$52 through \$FB are either used by the operating system or reserved for the future. Just for fun, I have now written my own name in ASCII code into the bytes starting at \$C0.

The rest of the bytes are used as shown in the following table. Where two choices are shown, separated by a slash, the left one has a code of \$00 and the right choice has a code of \$01.

Port 1	Port 2	
\$00	\$0C	Printer/Modem
\$01	\$0D	Line Length (Any/40/72/80/132)
\$02	\$0E	Delete LF after CR (No/Yes)
\$03	\$0F	Add LF after CR (No/Yes)
\$04	\$10	Echo (No/Yes)
\$05	\$11	Buffer (No/Yes)
\$06	\$12	Baud Rate
\$07	\$13	Data & Stop Bits
\$08	\$14	Parity
\$09	\$15	DCD Handshake (No/Yes)
\$0A	\$16	DSR Handshake (No/Yes)
\$0B	\$17	XON-XOFF Handshake (No/Yes)

Display Parameters

\$18	Color/Monochrome
\$19	40/80 Column
\$1A	Text Color (00-0F)
\$1B	Background Color (00-0F)
\$1C	Border Color (00-0F)
\$1D	60/50 Hertz Operation
\$29	Text Language (0=English)
\$2F	Flash Rate

Keyboard Parameters

\$2A	Language (0=English)
\$2B	Buffering (No/Yes)
\$2C	Repeat Speed
\$2D	Repeat Delay
\$30	Shift Caps-LowerCase (No/Yes)
\$31	Fast Space-Delete Keys (No/Yes)
\$32	Dual Speed (Normal/Fast)

Slot Configuration

\$21-27	Slot 1-7 Internal/External
\$28	Boot Slot

Miscellaneous

\$1E	User Volume
\$1F	Bell Volume
\$20	System Speed (Normal/Fast)
\$2E	Double-Click Time
\$33	High Mouse Resolution
\$34	Date Format
\$35	Time Format
\$36	Min RAM for Ramdisk
\$37	Max RAM for Ramdisk
\$38-40	Count & Languages
\$41-51	Count & Layouts
\$80	AppleTalk Node Number
\$81-A1	Operating System Variables

It is possible, as I said before, to talk directly to the battery RAM via I/O addresses. If you learn how to do this, and you use the skill to write values into battery RAM, you will probably do so without properly changing the checksum. In that case you have violated your system, and your next power-up will revert to default values for all parameters. It will stay that way until you reconfigure everything and/or install a proper checksum. The best policy is to use the standard firmware tools for all reading and writing, so that the checksum stays current.

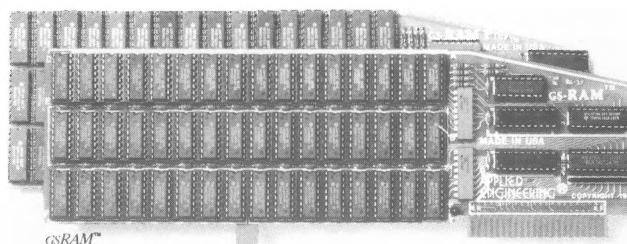
You do not have to read or write the whole battery RAM at once. There are two tools for reading and writing a single byte. Tool Code \$0B03 will write one byte, and tool code \$0C03 will read one byte. The following code segments illustrate how to do it. The code as shown must be in Native Mode, with both x- and m-bits zero (full 16-bit mode).

```
WR PEA $00xx      xx is new value for byte
PEA $00yy      yy is address in battery RAM
LDX #*$0B03    write xx at yy
JSL $E10000
-----
RD PEA $0000      make room for result
PEA $00yy      yy is address in battery RAM
LDX #*$0C03    read value at yy
JSL $E10000
PLA            get result from stack (00xx)
```

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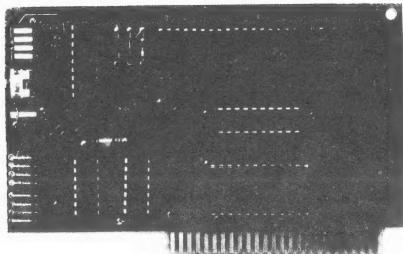
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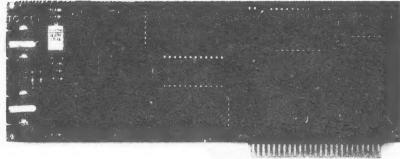
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VISION 80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
OMNIVISION	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
VIEWMAX 80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
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The Clock/Calendar Chip not only contains the battery RAM; it also contains the date and time information, naturally. There are three tools for reading and writing the time and date. You can read time/date in either hexadecimal format or as an ASCII string, and you can write a new time/date in a hex format. The following code segments illustrate how to use the tools.

Read.Time.Into.ASCII.String

```
PEA BUFFER/256/256    Hi 16-bits of buffer address
PEA BUFFER            Lo 16-bits of buffer address
LDX #\$0F03           Tool Code
JSR \$E10000
```

The date and time will be converted to ASCII (with msb = 1) and stored in BUFFER, according to the formats selected in the configuration menu (stored in battery RAM locations \\$34 and \\$35). The most likely choice among North Americans will be the format "mm/dd/yy HH:MM:SS XM", but you have five other possibilities.

Read.Time.Hex

```
PEA 0     Make room for 8 bytes
PEA 0     to be returned
PEA 0
PEA 0
LDX #\$0D03
JSR \$E10000
PLA      Get \$MMSS (minutes, seconds)
STA MMSS
PLA      Get \$yyHH (year, hours)
STA YYHH
PLA      Get \$mmdd (month, day)
STA MMDD
PLA      Get day of week (in low byte)
STA DOW
```

The value for day of week runs from 0 to 6, with 0=Sunday. The value for "day" is 0-30, meaning that you have to add 1 to get the true day number. (Why? This is a little ridiculous!) Likewise, the value for month is 0-11, with 0 standing for January. (I can understand why the hardware might work with 0-based values for day and month, but why couldn't the firmware do the correction to "real" day and month numbers?) The year is specified as the actual year number minus 1900. I hope that means my //gs will still give correct dates after 1999. If the value of the "yy" byte can go all the way to 255, then we could use //gs until the end of the year 2155. Frankly, I think I'll get tired of computers before then.

To write a new date and time out to the Clock chip, you have to push the values onto the stack and call the tool:

Write.New.Time

```
PEA $mmdd    month, day
PEA $yyHH    year, hour
PEA $MMSS    minute, second
LDX #\$0E03
JSR \$E10000
```

Again, the month and day values are zero-based. Note that you cannot update the day-of-week directly; apparently it is only a CALCULATED value provided when you READ the date/time in hex format.

You might wonder whether anyone would really NEED all the above information. After all, Apple has provided the configuration system to see/modify all those parameters. The problem is you cannot really use that system unless you can SEE. A lot of Apple owners are not able to see, so they use the ECHO or other some other brand of speech synthesizer to speak everything that goes out to the screen. The configuration program cannot be made to speak, as it is now written. Larry Skutchan is planning to write some sort of speaking version of the configurator, and the information above is just what he needs.

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Apple Assembly Line (ISSN 0889-4302) is published monthly by S-C SOFTWARE CORPORATION, P.O. Box 280300, Dallas, Texas 75228. Phone (214) 324-2050. Subscription rate is \$18 per year in the USA, sent Bulk Mail; add \$3 for First Class postage in USA, Canada, and Mexico; add \$14 postage for other countries. Back issues are available for \$1.80 each (other countries add \$1 per back issue for postage). A subscription to the newsletter and the Monthly Disk containing all source code is \$64 per year in the US, Canada and Mexico, and \$87 to other countries.

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